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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Albania	REPORT NO.	
SUBJECT	Order of Battle 1. Anti-Aircraft Battery in Durres 2. Albanian Air Force and Airfields	DATE DISTR.	26 March 1954
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PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	
		REFERENCES	

Anti-Aircraft Battery

- 25X1 1. An U/i anti-aircraft battery [] is located in the immediate vicinity of
25X1 ex-King Zog's palace, near Durres. The battery has 140 men and six heavy guns.
It is always on an alert status.¹

Air Force and Airfields

2. Approximately two kilometers east of Durres there is an airport which is not in use but is well maintained. It has a cement runway approximately 700 meters long and 10 meters wide. It has a hangar and a barrack which houses the airport guard, consisting of 40 men. The airport is surrounded by barbed wire, and sentry posts guard the entrance.
3. Another airport is located approximately three kilometers northwest of Tirana. It has a cement runway approximately 1,000 meters long and 16 meters wide. There is also a small asphalt runway, approximately 300 meters long, for the use of trucks. This airport has three large hangars, a garage, three barracks, and a small house for the guard detail. It is surrounded on the Tirana-Shkoder highway side by a cement wall and the remaining sides are protected by barbed wire. A radio antenna and a radar have been observed there since 1951.² Approximately 400 air force personnel are stationed at the airport.
4. From 15-20 single-motor fighters and trimotor bombers are based there. Two trimotor aircraft make a daily run from Tirana to Budapest. These planes have a large S-2 identification mark on their wings and are painted white. Two bimotor aircraft make postal runs on Tuesdays and Fridays from Tirana to Budapest. The Albanian Air Force has four or five twin-engine planes which are painted green and have a black eagle painted under the wing.

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STATE	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI	AEC				
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5. Since 1947, Albanian pilots have been trained in an unidentified aeronautical school in Moscow. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Comment:

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1. This unit is probably part of the 23rd Coastal Brigade with headquarters in Durres. [REDACTED]

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